

MOTHER TELLS OF NEW MODERN MIRACLE THAT PRODUCES PAINLESS BIRTH

San Francisco, Sept. 18.—The "Twilight Sleep," during which childbirth is accomplished with absolutely no pain to the mother!

Mrs. James Granger of this city is one of the few American mothers who have experienced this new medical mercy for which women in the hour of their deliverance have prayed in vain throughout the ages.

Mrs. Granger did not have to cross the Atlantic to the famous Frieburg Klinik in Germany where the scopolamin treatment, or "twilight sleep" as it has come to be generally known, was perfected to a degree of absolute safety. She was treated in her own home here.

In the birth of her baby daughter, a splendid child, she suffered no pain, although conscious of all that transpired.

She knew her husband and father when they came into the room, held out her hand and spoke to them calmly.

On the following day she was sitting up in bed, and on the third day she was up and around. There have been no bad effects.

"I positively suffered no pain at all," she continued, "although I dimly knew everything that was going on about me. I knew the doctors and nurses were there; I obeyed every request they made, but there was no pain, no agony. I spoke to them and held out my hand.

"It was strangely like sleep. When I awoke in my room with my baby beside me I felt perfectly well, wide awake. I was hungry. They gave me what I wished, and the next day I was sitting up in bed, and hungry enough to eat a regular dinner.

"I told a very dear friend of mine who was expecting a baby soon about this treatment, but she said she would not take it.

"I would not feel that my baby belonged to me," she said, 'if I did not

suffer the pain of bringing it into the world.'

"You see the old idea of suffering with childbirth is so deeply rooted in women that they cling to their agony even in the face of an almost miraculous scientific relief. That in itself is tragic. But it will not long be so. For the sake of their babies, if not to avert their own agony, women will welcome the 'twilight sleep' as one of the greatest of medical gifts."

Declaring that women who are given the scopolamin treatment recover more rapidly than mothers undergoing the ordeal without this pain-dulling drug, Dr. Francis Wakefield, who was in attendance on Mrs. Granger, says:

"The benefits are not confined alone to the mother during childbirth, but the system is spared the tremendous shock of hours of physical martyrdom. This beneficent after-effect is the most remarkable feature of the scopolamin treatment."

Up to this time the physicians in this country, where the wonderful use of scopolamin is said to have been fully known for 12 years, have shown a reluctance to administer the drug for painless childbirth. This is explained on the ground that, simple as it seems, the administering of the drug requires special training and sensitive discernment on the physician's part as well as an extra allowance of his time. For he cannot leave the patient's side from the time the first hypodermic injection is administered until the baby is born.

The physician furthermore must know exactly the regulation of dosage, which is the paramount consideration in the treatment. Without this expert knowledge it becomes a dangerous drug to handle.

The use of scopolamin, if its remarkable promises are borne out in wide experimentation and if it proves